



This newsletter contains information compiled by the AGR Office that is of general interest to all Active Guard Reserve (AGR) military personnel and air personnel. The information contained herein is derived from such sources as the National Guard Bureau (NGB), Military Personnel Office (MILPO), Military Pay Office (MILPAY), and Human Resources Office (HRO) as it pertains to full-time National Guard employment. The distribution of this newsletter is being expanded to include the air community and the term soldier will be replaced with military personnel in an effort to include the entire AZNG community.



Msgt Barb Klinger is the point of contact for ANG personnel. MSgt Klinger can be reached at 602-267-2430.

WELCOME ABOARD

These new military personnel entered the AGR program in the months of August and September.

Army Guard

MAJ Paul Forshey, HQ STARC
SFC James Carroll, Det 4 STARC
SSG Raul Portillo, Det 4 STARC
SPC Michael Denofre, HHC 1/285th Avn

Air Guard

CPT Joseph C. McGinn, 161st ARW
MSgt Timothy L. Garrity, 161st ARW
SSgt Michael A. Radice, 162nd FW
A1C Carmen SantaMaria, 162nd FW

Retirement

SFC Daniel Cosillos, WAATS
ret 30 Sep 00

SFC Michel Mahlberg, Det 4 STARC
ret 30 Sep 00

SSG Jeffrey McCollum, B Btry 2/180th
FA ret 30 Sep 00

TSG Maria Martinez, 162nd FW
Ret 15 Sep 00

SGT Robert Moreno, 2220th TC, ret 30
Sep 00

RESIGNATIONS

SSG Tom Kiser, FIST, eff 28 Sep 00

SSG John Semancik, Det 4 STARC,
eff 21 Sep 00

USE OR LOSE LEAVE

It is that time of year again, and you know who you are! This office has a roster that it will be sending out to Commanders on Army personnel that will lose leave if not taken before the end of September. The leave slips do not need to be submitted before EOM September, the leave just needs to be taken and submitted to MILPAY upon return.

AGR OFFICE CLOSED

The AGR office will be closed from 18-22 September while our staff is attending the Full-Time Support (FTS) Program Management Analysis and Review (PMAR) in Frisco, CO. This advisory council meets once a year to review official readiness data on all full-time personnel (AGR and Tech).



UNITED CONCORDIA NEWS

TFMDP Premiums decreased effective 1 August 2000 through 31 January 2001. The sponsor's cost for a single enrollment will be \$7.88 and \$19.70 for family enrollment.

In the last few months some military personnel's LESs have shown not to be deducting or showing an incorrect amount taken out for United Concordia dental. Please look at your EOM August statement and if you are signed up for the dental plan but show the wrong amount or none taken out at all, please let SSG Angelo know so she can call and find out what is the problem is before a family member's claim is returned because your plan is no longer in effect. This may be due to falling off of the DEERS system if you did not update your ID card or if your extension orders were processed less than 30 days from your ETS date.



HAD ANY CHANGES IN YOUR LIFE LATELY?

Have you moved, got married, new dependant? Be sure that your PAC does a DA 5960 with those changes ASAP and submit to this office on a SIDPERS T/L. Make sure that you have a copy of your mortgage or rental agreement attached to verify the information if you have moved. BAH is paid based on duty station not HOR, but DFAS requires that you must pay something for living quarters to be entitled to BAH. Federal recognitions and promotions are to be submitted on a MILPAY T/L directly from the PAC. This office does not submit promotion orders, but they are still required to be routed through this office on a SIDPERS T/L. SIDPERS does not drive AGR pay, so even if it shows on the data base, it does not mean that it is input into DFAS unless you see the pay grade increase on your LES.

LEAVE AND EARNING STATEMENT UPDATE

August EOM LESs are in and have been forwarded to the PACs.

We appreciate the patience of all our new AGR military personnel (this includes anyone entering within the last 2 years) regarding your LES. DFAS does not include these pay statements in the download received to MILPAY. This means that the new military personnel LESs must be requested special. They look different than normal LESs. This office is currently working with MILPAY to fix this problem. Do not hesitate to call this office if you need a special LES and one will be requested for you.

DCSPER DIRECTORATE OF HRO UNIFORM POLICY

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS:

Do pregnant military personnel have to wear the Physical Fitness Uniform (PFU) for Pregnancy Physical Training (PT)? If so, must they tuck in the shirt?

Pregnant military personnel should wear the PFU for pregnancy PT only as long as the uniform fits properly, with the shirt tucked inside the shorts. Once it becomes uncomfortable or difficult to wear the PFU in this manner, military personnel should wear appropriate civilian attire. Under no circumstances will commanders require pregnant military personnel to buy larger sizes of the PFU to accommodate the pregnancy.

Are the green jungle boots still authorized for wear?

Yes. Green jungle boots remain authorized as optional footwear until no longer serviceable. However, they are no longer available for purchase in Army Military Clothing Sales Store. (AR 670-1, para 26-4d and DAPE-HR-S, Message 121319Z April 1993, Subject: Boots)

What is the Army policy on tattoos?

The Army policy is that visible tattoos or brands on the neck, face, or head are prohibited. Tattoos on other areas of the body that are prejudicial to good order and discipline are prohibited. Additionally, any type of tattoo or brand that is visible while wearing a class A uniform and detracts from a military personnel appearance is prohibited. Commanders should keep in mind, however that the policy focuses mainly on tattoos that are racist, sexist, or extremist. There are two conditions established for the prohibition of a tattoo: that's it's **visible** and that it **detracts from a military personnel appearance**. The presence of the first condition by itself does not constitute a violation of the tattoo policy.

What is the wear out date of the old "wooly pully" sweater?

There is no established wearout date. The old style 100 percent wool sweater is still authorized for wear. It is considered an optional sweater for those military personnel who prefer wool.

SPACE A TRAVEL INFORMATION UPDATE

A recorded message on Space A available

flights can be heard by calling 602-302-9058. Information on Space A travel is updated quarterly or when new trips become available. Currently Space A is limited due to airlift requirements. When the PACER Craig conversions start next year, Space A flights will not be available until after the conversion, so, if you want to go Space A, **IT'S NOW OR 1 YEAR FROM NOW!!**

ARMED FORCES RECREATION CENTERS WEBSITE

Check this one out before your next vacation!!

<http://trot.redstone.army.mil/mwr/afrcs/index.html>

Armed Forces Recreation Centers (AFRCs) Mission Statement: Centrally-managed, U.S. Army Community and Family Support Center-operated Armed Forces Recreation Centers (Joint Services facilities) with mission to provide rest, relaxation, recreation, and sustainment for Army personnel, their families, and other members of the total Defense Force. Armed Forces Recreation Centers (AFRCs) support readiness, retention, and well-being. AFRCs will be prepared to assume contingency missions in support of mobilization and/or combat operations.

The AFRCs serve as Joint Services facilities and exist to offer affordable resort-style accommodations for service members and other authorized users (such as active-duty military retirees, currently employed and retired Department of Defense civilians, reservists, delayed entry recruits, and family members).



NGPEC PER DIEM LODGING RATE CHANGE

Effective 1 August 2000 the per diem rate for the Professional Education Center (PEC) is changed to \$95--(\$65 for lodging and \$34 for Meals and Incidental Expenses [M&IE]).

This change is approved by DAPE-PRR-C (Deputy Assistant Secretary of the Army [Military Personnel Policy]) memorandum dated 31 July 2000, Subject: Authorized Per Diem Rate for Meals and Incidentals at National Guard Professional Education Center, Camp Robinson, Arkansas.

The new rate does not currently appear in the IATS rate table for the Professional Education Center. Use either the Camp Robinson or Little Rock rate selection to ensure correct payment for duty at PEC.

FREE 2000 NATIONAL GUARD ALMANAC

USAA is providing a free copy of the 2000 National Guard Almanac. It is the essential guide for all military personnel and is available by calling USAA toll-free at **1-877-289-1224**.

AGR HANDBOOK

If you are new to the AGR program or been around a while there is a lot of valuable information in the AGR Handbook, and it is available by email or it can be downloaded from the HRO

website at <http://www.azng.com/hro>



AGR OFFICE PHONE LISTING

Our office symbol is AZAA-HR-A

Rank	Name	Title	Ext
SSG	Angelo, Lisa	Benefits Coord	2453
SFC	Carlson, Judy K.	AGR Staffing	2948
Msgt	Klinger, Barbara	Air AGR Mgr	2430
LTC	Palmatier, Richard	AGR Mgr	2485

**WISHING ALL OF YOU A HAPPY
AND SAFE LABOR DAY
WEEKEND**

